

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An application preparation assisting method for assisting in preparing an application for making a document-based application to a public organization, comprising the steps of:

acquiring information on a world-wide standard which defines contents that should be described in said application;

acquiring information on a standard unique to each country which is defined in detail in conformity ~~to~~ with said world-wide standard, and information on published applications and examinations unique to each ~~country~~; and ~~country~~;

~~assisting in preparing to~~ prepare application documents based on said acquired information on the world-wide standard, information on the standard unique to each country, and said information on the ~~application~~ published applications and ~~examination~~ examinations;

examining said application documents to check whether any of said application documents include an item which violates examination criteria; and

preparing and converting the application documents for a certain country to comply with an application format or examination conditions in said country such that

none of said application documents include any item violating said examination criteria.

2. (canceled)

3. (original) An application preparation assisting method according to claim 1, further comprising:

acquiring information on documents which have been applied in a certain country, and information on documents which have accepted permission from said country as a result of examinations after application; and

assisting in preparing an application for another country with reference to said information on the documents.

4. (original) An application preparation assisting method according to claim 1, further comprising:

electronically submitting the prepared application documents to perform electronic application processing.

5. (original) An application preparation assisting method according to claim 1, further comprising:

recording an entire manipulation procedure of an operator for preparing an application with the assistance of application preparation as log information so that the log information can be viewed at a later time.

6. (currently amended) An application preparation assisting system for assisting in preparing an application for making a document-based application to a public organization, comprising:

means for acquiring and utilizing information on a world-wide standard which defines contents that should be described in said application;

means for acquiring and utilizing information on a standard unique to each country which is defined in detail in conformity to with said world-wide standard, and information on published applications and examinations unique to each country; and

means for assisting in ~~preparing to prepare~~ application documents based on said acquired information on the world-wide standard, information on the standard unique to each country, and said information on the ~~application published applications and examination examinations~~;

means for examining said application documents to check whether any of said application documents includes an item which violates examination criteria; and

means for preparing and converting the application documents for a certain country to comply with an application format or examination conditions in said country such that none of said application documents include any item violating said examination criteria.

7. (canceled)

8. (original) An application preparation assisting system according to claim 6, further comprising:

means for acquiring information on documents which have been applied in a certain country, and information on documents which have accepted permission from said country as a result examinations after application,

wherein said means for assisting in preparing application documents prepares an application for another country with reference to said information on the documents.